

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AS-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
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C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 10095

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: JA, KS, US, SOPN
SUBJECT: CONTINUING CONTROVERSARY OVER ALLEGED KCIA ACTIVITIES
IN JAPAN

REFS: TOKYO 9401; TOKYO 9574

1. ALTHOUGH HEADLINE SPLASH OF LAST MONTH'S CONGRESSIONAL
TESTIMONY OF FORMER KCIA HEAD KIM HYUNG WOOK HAS DIED DOWN,
MEDIA HAVE CONTINUED TO FOLLOW UP ALLEGATIONS OF KCIA MISDEEDS
BOTH WITHIN JAPAN AND US. IN ADDITION TO US-BASED STORIES
ON CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION OF KOREAN LOBBYING IN
WASHINGTON, PAST WEEK FEATURED KIM HYUNG WOOK'S ASSERTION
TO JOURNALISTS THAT JAPANESE NATIONAL POLICE AGENCY HAD
"SECRET AGREEMENT" FOR COOPERATION WITH KCIA, CHARGE
SUBSEQUENTLY DENIED BY POLICE AUTHORITIES.

2. ON RELATED THEME, PRESS ALSO PICKED UP OPEN LETTER TO
PM FUKUDA FROM FORMER ROK PRESIDENT YUN BO SANG, WHO
SHARPLY CRITICIZED GOJ'S "UNCONDITIONAL SUPPORT" OF PARK
REGIME AND ITS SUPPRESSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. LETTER NOTED
THAT LDP'S SILENCE OVER LACK OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ROK WAS
IN MARKED CONTRAST WITH US EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN.
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE SAID FUKUDA WOULD NOT REPLY TO
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YUN'S "IRRESPONSIBLE" LETTER.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH CONTINUED CONTROVERSARY OVER
ALLEGATIONS OF KCIA ACTIVITIES IN JAPAN HAS NOT YET
PRODUCED ANY MAJOR BOMBSHELL, PERSISTENCE OF MEDIA AND
POPULAR ATTENTION INDICATE ISSUE WILL NOT STAY BURIED.
WHILE IT DOES NOT APPEAR THAT THIS WILL HAVE SIGNIFICANT

EFFECT ON JULY 10 UPPER HOUSE ELECTION, FONOFF
OFFICIALS HAVE OBSERVED THAT IN LONG RUN POPULAR SENTIMENT,
SPURRED BY FURTHER REVELATIONS OUT OF US, MIGHT EVENTUALLY
FORCE GOJ TO RE-OPEN ACTIVE INVESTIGATION OF KIM TAE JUNG
ABDUCTION AND TO MAKE SOME "POLITICAL GESTURE" AGAINST
ROK. GOJ WOULD SEEK TO AVOID SUCH ACTION AS IT COULD ONLY
WORSEN JAPAN-ROK RELATIONS AND WOULD SERVE TO UNDERSCORE
OPPOSITION PARTIES' FAMILIAR CHARGES OF LDP-ROK COLLUSION.
FONOFF OFFICIALS NOTE THAT GOJ LEADERSHIP IS ESPECIALLY
CONCERNED THAT KIM JAE KWON, FORMER ROK DIPLOMAT ALLEGEDLY
INVOLVED IN KIM ABDUCTION AND NOW IN US, MIGHT MAKE FRESH
REVELATIONS EITHER TO PRESS OR CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE.
MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

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